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“INVESTIGATIONS AT ASSOS”¹

It gives the Editors of this *Journal* great satisfaction to announce the appearance of Part I of *Investigations at Assos*. This publication is quite distinct from the *Reports* previously brought out; it is of large folio size, fourteen by twenty-one inches, and aims to present to the eye the exact results of the discoveries made by the expedition to Assos. This book of plates has been under the editorial charge of Francis H. Bacon, one of the members of the expedition, who has accomplished a difficult task in a most praiseworthy manner. In the preface he informs us that the entire material of the expedition was left in the hands of Mr. Clarke for arrangement and publication; owing to various hindrances, Mr. Clarke could not do the work, so that it ultimately devolved on the present editor. He has had the valuable assistance of Robert Koldewey. Despite the lapse of years, owing to the extreme care with which the plans, drawings, and photographs were executed, we seem to be looking at the product of a very recent excavation.

A brief history of Assos is given, largely taken from the previous *Reports*; there follows a summary of the descriptions of various travellers who have visited Assos in modern days, with an account of the experiences of the American

¹ *Investigations at Assos*: Drawings and Photographs of the Buildings and Objects discovered during the Excavations of 1881-1882-1883. By Joseph T. Clarke, Francis H. Bacon, Robert Koldewey. Edited with Explanatory Notes by Francis H. Bacon. Cambridge, Mass.: Archaeological Institute of America. London: Bernard Quaritch, and Henry Sotheran & Co. Leipzig: Karl W. Hiersemann.

excavators. All this, however, is but by way of preface to the illustrations which follow. The present Part includes the Agora, the Stoa, the Bouleuterion, and the Inscriptions and Bases from the Agora, with necessary maps, of which that made in Germany is not up to the standard of the book. Many photographs are very successfully reproduced by heliotypes, which have all the accuracy of the camera with an artistic element added; smaller objects are done in half-tones. The part of the book which will appeal most to archaeologists and architects is the drawings and restorations of Messrs. Bacon and Koldewey, which make clear every inch of the ground. Mr. Bacon already enjoys a well-deserved reputation as a draughtsman; that reputation this book will enhance.

The Inscriptions will appear in their appropriate places. Those from the Agora appear in this Part. They are translated and annotated by Professor J. R. S. Sterrett; they are followed by the local block of measures and the tile-standard.

The pages are issued loose, for handy use. A portfolio to contain all will be delivered with the last Part. The typography, paper, and the various processes by which the illustrations are produced are all admirable. Future Parts — four in number — will contain the Baths and Heroön, Mosaic Pavements, ancient and Byzantine, Theatre, Greek Bridge and Roman Atrium, Temple and Sculptures, Fortification Walls and Gateways, Gymnasium, Mausoleums and Tombs, with the objects found in them, Figurini, Coins (treated by Professor Percy Gardner), Vases, and the Turkish Mosque.

It is interesting to note that an enterprising architect has already employed in an American building some of the peculiar features of the work of his confrères of Assos in the Troad.

The Archaeological Institute of America, when hardly three years old, signalled her entrance upon the field of research in classic lands by the excavations at Assos. The School at Athens, founded in 1881, the year in which this work opened, followed the example set by her mother, the Institute, and began almost

immediately upon her foundation to conduct explorations and investigations at various sites in Greece. The most extensive and significant of these—at least of such as have been completed, and probably of all—were those carried on between 1892 and 1895, under the direction of Professor Charles Waldstein, at the seat of the ancient sanctuary of Hera near Argos. As the present number of the *Journal* is going to press, the first volume of *The Argive Heraeum*, in which the results of these excavations are worthily set forth, is issued to the public; it is to be followed by the second and concluding volume in a few months. This beautiful and important publication—of which a notice will appear in a later number of the *Journal*—is appropriately dedicated to Professor Charles Eliot Norton, the first president of the Institute, to whose initiative and support are due, more than to any other man's, not only the prosecution of the work at Assos, but also the adequate publication of it in the *Investigations at Assos*.